



2020 LEGAL CONFERENCE

## Biographies

### Welcome Remarks

#### **Christopher Smith, Chief Counsel, Finance, AIIB, and Co-Chair, 2020 AIIB Legal Conference**

Christopher Smith is Chief Counsel, Finance at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). Prior to joining AIIB, Mr. Smith was Senior Attorney at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, having worked in several of the firm's offices across the United States and Europe. He holds a JD from the University of Michigan, an MA from Johns Hopkins University and a BA from Tufts University. He is qualified to practice law in the State of New York. Prior to law school, Mr. Smith served as a US Peace Corps Volunteer in Armenia

#### **Panel 1: Funding International Development Organizations: The Role of International Organizations in the Development of Local Capital Markets**

*Moderator: Rüdiger Woggon, Assistant General Counsel, AIIB*

Rüdiger Woggon is Assistant General Counsel of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and a member of the management team of the Office of the General Counsel (OGC). He oversees the investment operations and finance operations related functions of OGC. He is the legal adviser to the Audit and Risk Committee of the Board of Directors and represents OGC in AIIB's Risk Committee. In addition, he manages OGC's recruitment. Before joining AIIB he was Director, Chief Counsel of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, where he led the legal team advising on funding operations, derivatives, repos, cash and custody accounts and a variety of other Treasury matters. After graduation from law school and admittance to the bar in 1987 in Germany, he started his legal career as an associate for a law and tax firm then became a research fellow at the University of Konstanz (Germany), where he also earned his doctorate in law. He then joined the capital markets department of Bankgesellschaft Berlin AG in Berlin and London.

**Elena Sulima, Senior Counsel, OGC Finance, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development**

Elena is a senior debt capital markets, banking and structured finance lawyer with over 20 years of experience of advising on all aspects of debt securities issuance, cross-border financing and derivatives.

Elena has been with the EBRD for over 14 years advising Treasury on bond issuance, local currency borrowing, derivatives and other issues. She was instrumental in developing capital markets infrastructure in a number of the Bank's countries of operations (COO) that allowed the Bank to issue local currency securities and develop its local currency lending programmes. She actively contributes to the Bank's efforts in promoting best international practice in local capital markets and introducing innovative instruments in the Bank's COO.

She began her professional career at Clifford Chance where she advised on cross-border finance and capital markets transactions, including a number of award-winning transactions in emerging markets. Before joining the EBRD, she managed a corporate finance legal team at one of the world's largest mining companies.

Elena obtained her law degree from the Kyiv University, Ukrainian Institute of International Relations. She also holds an LL.M. degree from the Central European University, and a degree in International Trade Law from T.M.C. Asser College in the Hague.

**Purva Chadha, Senior Counsel, International Finance Corporation**

Purva Chadha is a lawyer with over 16 years of experience. She joined International Finance Corporation (IFC) in 2011 and is a Senior Counsel based in IFC's Mumbai office. Prior to joining IFC, she was in private practice, with a leading Indian law firm, where she worked across diverse areas including financing, private equity, mergers and acquisitions, as well as capital markets. She also gained early experience in drafting of key legislation in India.

At IFC, she has focused on transactions involving financings (including syndicated financing, structured financing, and financings via capital market instruments), equity investments (including the initial investment, portfolio issues and exits by way of private sale or IPO) and government and regulatory interface on a range of issues.

She has worked across Asia, including India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Philippines, Singapore and Malaysia.

She is fluent in Hindi and English.

**Yixin (Christine) Chen, Partner, Fangda Partners**

Yixin (Christine) Chen is a partner of Fangda Partners, a prestigious law firm in China. Her practice focuses on capital markets and financial regulatory advisory. She is the lead partner on a number of landmark capital markets transactions, including the first SDR-denominated bond offering in China; the first sovereign panda bond offering; the first bail-in-able, TLAC-eligible panda bond offering; and the first GDR offering under London-Shanghai Stock Connect.

Christine won Euromoney's "Best in Capital Markets" Asia Women Awards in 2017 and was ranked a "Recommended Lawyer" in capital markets by Legal 500 in 2015 and 2017. She was also ranked "Highly Regarded Lawyer" in capital markets by IFLR1000 in 2020.

Christine was a counsel at Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, having worked in its New York, Hong Kong and Beijing offices for nine years. Then she joined JPMorgan Chase and became a Managing Director and its Legal Head of North Asia. Prior to joining Fangda Partners in 2018, Christine was a partner at King & Wood Mallesons.

Christine holds LL.B., LL.M. and Ph.D. degrees from Fudan University and an LL.M. degree from New York University School of Law (where she was a Hauser Global Scholar).

Christine is admitted to New York bar and is licensed to practice in China.

**Panel 2: Funding International Development Organizations: The Legal Status of International Organizations**

*Moderator: Ranjini Ramakrishnan, Senior Counsel, Institutional & Administrative, AIIB*

Ranjini Ramakrishnan joined the AIIB in April 2018. Prior to this, she had been working as a Senior Counsel in the Institutional Administration department of the Legal Vice Presidency at the World Bank Washington D.C. Ranjini has held various positions in the Singapore Legal Service, including as State Counsel at the International Affairs Division of the Singapore Attorney-General Chambers and as Assistant Director at the Legal Aid Bureau, Singapore Ministry of Law. Ranjini graduated with an LL.B. from the National University of Singapore, and has a LL.M. from the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington D.C.

**Christopher Moore, Partner, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP**

Christopher Moore is a partner based in Cleary Gottlieb's London office. Mr. Moore's practice focuses on international arbitration and litigation, including on behalf of sovereign States and State-owned entities.

He has represented multinational corporations in complex international commercial arbitrations across a range of industries seated in the world's most frequently selected arbitral seats and before tribunals formed under the rules of the leading institutional and *ad hoc* arbitration regimes, including the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), and UNCITRAL, and litigation matters before state and federal courts throughout the United States.

Mr. Moore also has extensive experience acting as counsel in matters involving foreign states in investor-state disputes under the rules of the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), as well as litigation involving the immunity of foreign states and their agencies under the U.S. Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act and public international law. Recent matters in which he has acted on behalf of states or state-owned entities include representing the Hellenic Republic in three treaty-based ICSID arbitrations regarding claims arising out of the largest sovereign debt restructuring in history; the Republic of Austria in the first ICSID arbitration brought against that state; and the Republic of Argentina in the defense of numerous cases since 2002 brought in connection with Argentina's economic crises, including defeating numerous attempts by creditors to obtain restraining orders and/or orders of attachment, including in connection with the restraint of the Argentine warship ARA Libertad in Ghana and the ultimate release of that vessel.

Mr. Moore is a member of the ICC Institute, and is regularly invited to speak on topics at various global arbitration events, including at Hong Kong Arbitration Week, Stockholm ICAL, GAR Live in London and Zurich, and GAR Live BITs in Washington DC. He recently served as a member of the faculty for the 2019 CIArbDiploma in International Commercial Arbitration program and led training sessions at University College, Oxford. He has published articles on a variety of international arbitration topics and developments, and recently co-authored a chapter in the book "Take the Witness: Cross-Examination in International Arbitration."

**Paul Dudek, Partner, Latham & Watkins**

Paul Dudek is a partner in the Washington, DC office of Latham & Watkins. His practice covers all aspects of cross-border capital markets transactions involving non-US companies and sovereign issuers, as well as related regulatory matters. Mr. Dudek joined Latham after 23 years as Chief of the Office of International Corporate Finance in the US Securities and Exchange Commission's Division of Corporation Finance.

In his previous role, Mr. Dudek oversaw the Office's efforts to develop and implement rulemaking initiatives and interpretive policies pertaining to US public and private offerings, listings and other transactions and periodic reporting by foreign private issuers in US and multinational offerings by foreign and domestic issuers, especially with respect to Regulation S, Rule 144A, American depositary receipts (ADRs), International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), and offering by foreign governments and international organizations.

Mr. Dudek served as the US representative to the Corporate Governance Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and did significant work relating to international regulatory organizations, including the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) and the Financial Stability Board.

**Mিনny Siu, Partner, King & Wood Mallesons**

Mিনny Siu is a partner in King & Wood Mallesons Hong Kong SAR office where she specialises in derivatives, structured products, financial regulatory and FinTech. She also advises regularly on cross-border regulatory issues relating to RQFII, QDIIs, Bond Connect and cross-border RMB settlement related issues. She is an active participant in various industry working groups and committees, including ISDA, the Capital Markets Committee of ASIFMA and FSDC.

In particular, Mিনny advises ISDA on a variety of PRC netting issues, including, most recently, the enforceability of the ISDA Master Agreements and the title transfer collateral arrangements in connection with ISDA Master Agreements entered into with international financial organisations and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Mিনny has been named as a leading lawyer in Structured Products and Derivatives and Financial Regulatory by Chambers Asia Pacific, Legal 500 Asia Pacific and IFLR1000. She has been named as one of the Women Leaders in Hong Kong by IFLR1000 Women Leaders 2020.

Mিনny speaks fluent Mandarin, Cantonese and English, and is qualified to advise on Hong Kong and English laws.

**E. Whitney Debevoise, Partner, Arnold & Porter**

Whitney Debevoise is a Washington, DC-based partner in the international law firm of Arnold & Porter Kaye Sholer LLP with more than twenty-five years of experience in sovereign finance and multilateral financial institutions. From 2007 to 2010, Mr. Debevoise served as U.S. Executive Director of the World Bank Group. He has experience with projects involving both the public and private sector windows of regional development banks, as well as institutional, integrity and immunity issues and international financial institution relationships with national regulatory regimes such as derivatives regulation and international economic sanctions. Mr. Debevoise currently serves as a member of the Council of the International Law Section of the American Bar Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the International Law Institute. He is a former Vice President of the American Society of International Law. Mr. Debevoise is a graduate of Yale College and the Harvard Law School and is fluent in French, Spanish and Portuguese.

**Panel 3: Funding International Development Organizations: Innovations in Resource Mobilization**

*Moderator: Tomas Kairys, Chief Counsel, Investment Operations, AIIB*

Tomas Kairys is the Chief Counsel managing the AIIB's largest legal department unit providing legal advice on all of the AIIB's non-sovereign and sovereign investment operations, including advising the management committees and board of directors dealing with investments and policy & strategy matters as they impact the financings. Tomas has 20+ years' experience in finance and banking law with particular focus on cross-border transactions in developing and emerging markets. Tomas' sectoral experience covers debt and equity projects in energy, infrastructure, FI, transport and manufacturing as well as sub-sovereign financings. In addition to spending 15 years at EBRD (which included 3 years at EBRD's Istanbul office) he was also an associated partner in private practice, a manager at EY as well as a visiting lecturer.

**Dr. Gerd Drosesse, Senior Advisor to Governments and International Organizations and former Legal Counsel/General Counsel of the Green Climate Fund and the World Green Economy Organization**

Dr. Gerd Drosesse is currently Senior Advisor to Governments and International Organizations and previously worked for over 35 years for international organizations in senior and management positions. He has extensive experience in international institutional law and administrative law, HR policies, complex financial policy and resource mobilization issues, innovative modalities of financing and matters relating to the green economy.

Dr. Drosesse was in 2018/19 the General Counsel of the World Green Economy Organization in Dubai. He contributed to setting up the legal and institutional framework of the Green Climate Fund where he served from 2012 to 2018 as the Legal Counsel of the Interim Secretariat, Acting General Counsel and Senior Advisor to the Executive Director and General Counsel.

Previously, he worked for 17 years with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), at Director level in the Office of The Secretary, as the Legal Adviser of the Asian Development Bank Institute, and as Head of the Special Practice Group: Institutional and Administrative in the Office of the General Counsel. He also contributed to the work of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations as the legal adviser to the Director of Personnel.

Dr. Drosesse is qualified as a lawyer in Germany. He studied law and history at the universities of Würzburg (Germany) and Lausanne (Switzerland) and international relations at the Johns Hopkins SAIS Bologna Center in Italy and holds a German law degree (with distinction) and a Doctor of Law degree (summa cum laude) of Hamburg University. Drosesse is the editor and main contributor of the book “Funds for Development: Multilateral Channels of Concessional Financing” which was launched in 2011 at the National University of Singapore (<https://www.adb.org/publications/funds-development-multilateral-channels-concessional-financing>) and has contributed chapters to 5 books. He has been teaching at the Paris School of International Affairs (SciencesPo) since 2017 and is currently a Visiting Professor at the Tashkent State University of Law. His new book titled “Membership in International Organizations: Paradigms of Membership Structures, Legal Implications of Membership and the Concept of International Organization” has recently been published by T.M.C. Asser Press. <https://www.asser.nl/asserpress/books/?rId=13945>



**Douglas Leys, General Counsel, Green Climate Fund**

Douglas Leys Q.C. is a graduate of the University of the West Indies and the Norman Manley Law School. He commenced his legal career in 1985 in the Attorney General's office where he rose from the ranks of Assistant Crown Counsel to Deputy Solicitor General in 1996.

He is a Fulbright fellow and successfully completed his fellowship at American and Georgetown Universities in Washington DC where he specialized in International Financial Law and Securities Regulation. While in Washington DC he also completed his professional attachment at the former Inter-American Investment Corporation (the private financing arm) of the Inter-American Development Bank, now IBD Invest.

In May 2003 Mr. Leys was appointed as General Counsel for the Caribbean Development Bank and in May 2008 he returned to the Government of Jamaica where he was appointed Solicitor General. Upon his return as Solicitor General he was appointed Queens Counsel.

In May 2012 he resigned from the public service and was again engaged as General Counsel of the Caribbean Bank. He departed from the Bank a year later and commenced private practice where he was involved in a number of high-profile cases and commercial transactions throughout the Caribbean.

In February 2018 he was appointed as General Counsel to the Green Climate Fund headquartered in South Korea where he continues to serve in this capacity.

**Heikki Cantell, General Counsel, Head of Legal Department and Secretary General, Nordic Investment Bank**

Heikki Cantell is the General Counsel, Head of Legal Department and Secretary General of the Nordic Investment Bank (2007-). Before this, Mr. Cantell served as General Counsel of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) from 1995-2007. Prior to his career as General Counsel, he was Head of the Paris branch of the Finnish law firm Heikki Haapaniemi, and was a legal counsel for the Finnish Cultural Foundation. Mr. Cantell also has a number of professional engagements including Conseiller du Commerce Extérieur for France and Board appointments on two Finnish holding companies. Nominated as an arbitrator by the International Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Cantell is also a Member of the Panel of Recognised International Market Experts in Finance (PRIME). He lectures widely at universities and conferences and has published articles in legal and commercial publications in France and in Finland.

**Arthur Mitchell, Senior Advisor, White & Case LLP**

Mr. Mitchell has almost 45 years of experience, much of it in Asia and is one of the leading American lawyers specializing in investment and financing transactions around the world.

Prior to joining White & Case in September 2007, Mr. Mitchell was General Counsel of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). He became General Counsel of the ADB in 2003 and supervised all aspects of legal advice given with respect to documentation of public sector and private sector loan transactions, equity investments, political risk guarantees and bond financings. Mr. Mitchell managed an office comprised of 42 attorneys from 18 countries and was responsible for compliance with Bank policies and procedures. He advised the President and the Board of Directors on corporate governance, institutional and administrative matters, and all litigation involving the bank.

Mr. Mitchell is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and of Harvard Law School.

## **Panel 4: Funding International Development Organizations: Innovations in Structure and Development**

*Moderator: Alexandre Pauwels, Counsel, Finance, AIIB*

Alexandre Pauwels, a national of Belgium, joined AIIB in September 2018. Prior to joining AIIB, Alexandre served as Counsel with the Corporate Finance Practice Group of the World Bank's Legal Vice-Presidency and practiced with the M&A department of Linklaters (Brussels office). Alex holds a Master in Laws and a Master in Political Sciences from the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium) as well as an LL.M in Corporate Governance and Practice from Stanford Law School.

### **Robert S. Risoleo, Managing Partner of the Washington, D.C. Office of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP**

Bob Risoleo is the Managing Partner of the Washington, DC office of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP and a member of the firm's Capital Markets and Finance and Restructuring Groups. He has broad experience in U.S. and cross-border securities offerings, acquisitions and joint ventures, as well as restructurings and project and structured finance.

His corporate finance practice has included scores of domestic and international debt and equity offerings, including IPOs, privatizations, securitizations of receivables and other collateral, complex tax-based structures utilizing swaps and other derivatives, and the development of innovative preferred stock products and structured notes. He has acted as counsel to the issuer or underwriters in connection with the debt issuances of a number of multilateral financial institutions, including members of the World Bank Group, Inter-American Development Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, North American Development Bank, African Development Bank, CAF, FLAR and CABEL. He recently acted for Fiduciaria Bancolombia S.A. Sociedad Fiduciaria, as trustee of issuer trusts for several ground-breaking projects forming part of Colombia's "Fourth Generation" (4G) infrastructure program, and he has acted for the underwriters on debt offerings and liability management transactions by Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Panama.

Bob advises a number of U.S. and non-U.S. public companies with respect to a wide range of corporate and securities matters, including compliance with the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the Dodd-Frank Act and related regulations. He is a regular speaker at continuing legal education programs on topics relating to new financial products, securities offerings and federal securities laws and co-chaired the Practising Law Institute program, Understanding Financial Products, and its predecessor programs from 1998 until 2020. He is a member of the Sullivan & Cromwell Opinion Practice Committee, Co-Chair of the TriBar Opinion Committee, a Director of the Working Group on Legal Opinions Foundation and an active member of the American Bar Association Legal Opinions and Federal Regulation of Securities Committees.

Bob has been recognized as a leading lawyer in The Best Lawyers in America, has been ranked by the Legal 500 Latin America, Chambers Latin America and Chambers Global in various Capital Markets categories, and has twice (2010 and 2016) received the International Law Office's Client Choice Award for Capital Markets (U.S.).



**Gayle R. Girod, Chief Innovation Counsel and Assistant General Counsel of the Global Development Lab, and the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment, United States Agency for International Development**

Gayle is the Chief Innovation Counsel at USAID, covering legal issue for the Global Development Lab and the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education, and Environment, as well as issues affecting the entire Agency regarding the innovative use of funding, open data, and intellectual property. Gayle joined the General Counsel Office at USAID in May 2011.

Gayle previously worked at World Vision as Associate General Counsel, advising on compliance, policy, and operational issues, principally on US Government grant matters. Prior to World Vision, Gayle practiced government contracts law at three DC law firms, advising clients on contract and grant compliance matters, and representing companies in contract negotiations and litigations, including claims and bid protests (Reed Smith - 2003 to 2008, Morgan, Lewis and Bockius - 1996-2003, and Howrey & Simon - 1995-1996). Gayle clerked for the Honorable Kenneth R. Harkins, Court of Federal Claims (1994-1995).

Originally from Michigan, Gayle is a graduate of Michigan State University and the University of Toledo College of Law.

**Ruth Niland, Head of Mandates and Financial Instruments Division, European Investment Bank**

Ruth Niland is an Irish-qualified solicitor (2008). She is Head of Division of the Mandates and Financial Instruments division within the legal directorate of the European Investment Bank, leading a team working on the mandates that the EIB implements on behalf of the European Union and other entities. She holds a BCL (Law & French) from University College Cork, Ireland, as well as a Masters in Law.

**Closing Remarks**

**Gerard Sanders, General Counsel, AIIB**

Mr. Gerard Sanders joined the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) as General Counsel in August 2016. He advises the President and governance bodies of AIIB and is responsible for the legal aspects of the Bank's work. Prior to joining AIIB in August 2016, he was General Counsel of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a specialized agency of the United Nations, working at its headquarters in Rome. Before that, Mr. Sanders held various positions at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London, most recently as Deputy General Counsel. Earlier in his career, he worked with law firms in Wellington, Washington, D.C., and Amsterdam and in a corporate legal role in London.

Mr. Sanders has graduate law degrees from Victoria University of Wellington and Harvard Law School. He is a Chartered Accountant (Australia and New Zealand), a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment, Senior Fellow of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, and Visiting Professorial Fellow at Queen Mary College, University of London. Mr. Sanders is qualified to practice law in New Zealand, the state of Victoria in Australia and England and Wales. He is a national of New Zealand.